

**PONTHIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR CYMUNED PONTHIR**

**Minutes of Extra-Ordinary Meeting
21st March 2016**

1. **Present:** Cllr. S. Bailey (Chair), Cllr. Mrs J. Bold, Cllr. M. Barrell, Cllr. N. Dominy and Cllr. L. Adams (from 7.10pm)

Members of Public Attending: None

Clerk: Karen Price

2. **Apologies:** Cllr. I. Glover

3. **Declarations of Interest**

- a. Cllr. Bold declared a personal interest in Item 5 as her father attends the Ponthir Friends for Life Community Hub and took no part in the decision for this item.
- b. Council noted that Cllr. Dominy had, at the meeting held on 9th March 2016, declared a personal interest in Item 6 as he understood his employers had been approached to tender for the cycle path. Cllr. Dominy has informed the Clerk that his employers have subsequently confirmed that they have not been approached to tender for the cycle path. Cllr. Dominy does not therefore have a personal interest in Item 6.

4. **Installation of the Community Library, Tram Lane, Llanfrechfa**

Cllr. Dominy confirmed that the contractor had been in discussion with Llanfrechfa Village Association members concerning their preferred materials for the shelving but agreeing and sourcing these materials had taken some time. The contractor is still willing to undertake this work. (**Action: Cllr. Dominy to contact contractor for an update**)

5. **Grant Application** – Council approved the following grant application using the appropriate power:

Local Government Act (Misc. Prov) 1976 Section 19

Organisation	Amount	Proposed	Seconded
Ponthir Friends for Life Community Hub	£150.00	Cllr. Bailey	Cllr. Barrell

- 7.10pm – Cllr. Adams entered the meeting.

6. **Funding Bid in relation to the first phase of the Afon Lwyd Greenway from Caerleon to Ponthir**

Cllr. Bailey gave a brief resume on this project and the following points were noted:

- Sustrans have identified a potential source of funding for the first phase of the route from Caerleon to Ponthir.
- Newport High School Old Boys Rugby Club (NHSOB) and Caerleon Running Club wish to submit a joint bid for a proposal to redevelop the clubhouse (including public conveniences and a cycle hub), floodlighting, drainage, provision of a running surface, javelin, shot and discus field and a flood lit cycle path.
- The proposed cycle path would run from NHSOB on the Usk Road, cross the river at the very bottom of the Star Trading Estate and pass through the Welsh Water woodland before emerging by the entrance to the Water Treatment centre. There would be offshoots to Forge Close and short nature trails into the woodland.

- This bid is backed by Sustrans, Gail Giles (Cabinet Member on Newport CC and Torfaen CBC).
- If successful the cycle route could open in 2019.
- A mobile display of the route would be available for inspection at public buildings in Caerleon and Ponthir.

Council has been asked to consider sending a letter of support in relation to this funding bid. Clerk has circulated a draft letter to Councillors for discussion. Council agreed to send a letter of support in principle for this funding bid but that the draft letter needed to be amended to reflect the recognition that some residents will have different views and engagement and consultations will have to take place with residents before any route is finalized. **(Action: Clerk to circulate a revised letter of support for approval)**

7. Finalisation of proposed new equipment and proposed improvements to Ponthir Play Area

Confirmation has been received that a grant of £8K has been awarded from Tesco Bags of Help scheme towards this project. Council agreed the following:

- £2K would be set aside as a Play Area Budget for 2016/17. This would allow for any additional work identified during the next financial year. The remaining £22,035.00 would be spent on the current improvements.
- The specifications for the multiplay unit to be increased from that originally quoted.
- An increase from 2 to 4 new benches to be ordered with the existing benches to be removed.
- Council to consider renewing the existing footpaths and installing new footpaths to link up with the junior swings and multiplay unit, subject to costings received.
- Should any matter arise that require a decision being made prior to the next meeting that Cllrs. Bailey and Bold together with the Clerk be authorized to make a decision on behalf of the Council.

(Action: Site plans showing location of proposed equipment and revised quotation to be forwarded from contractor and circulated to all Councillors. The Multiplay Unit details to be circulated to all members prior to approval.)

8. Matters to be reported to TCBC - Clerk was asked to contact TCBC concerning:

- The overflowing litter bin in Llanfrechfa
- The litter on the grass verge between Llanfrechfa and Ponthir.

Meeting Closed at 7.40pm

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